Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

# Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 RABAT 02270 262234Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
SSC-01 /041 W
----------262242Z 001558 /15
R 261647Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY RABAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1711
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 2270

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR MO
SUBJECT: KING HASSAN APPOINTS FIRST SAHRAOUI TO MINISTERIAL POST

1. KING HASSAN II ON APRIL 19 NAMED KHALID HANNA OULD RACHID AS SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE. RACHID IS THE FIRST SAHRAOUI TO OCCUPY A CABINET POST IN THE GOM. HIS RESPONSIBILITIES WERE NOT ANNOUNCED. WE UNDERSTAND HE WILL BE ASSIGNED GENERAL DUTIES AND HELP MANAGE PAPER FLOW IN ESSENTIALLY A TRAINING POSITION DESIGNED TO PREPARED HIM FOR MORE IMPORTANT POSITIONS IN FUTURE.

2. BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION: WE HAVE LITTLE BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON OUL RACHID, WHO IS ABOUT 35 YEARS OLD. SPAIN MADE HIM SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE PRO-INDEPENDENCE SAHRAOUI NATIONAL UNION PARTY (PUNS), FOUNDED IN 1974-75 AS PART OF EFFORT TO CREATE A PRO-SPANISH INDEPENDENT SAHARA. IN MAY 1975, HOWEVER, RACHID RALLIED TO MOROCCO, BRINGING THE FUNDS OF THE PUNS TREASURY WITH HIM.

3. RACHID HAS BEEN DESCRIBED BY A MOROCCAN ACQUAINTANCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 RABAT 02270 262234Z

AS FAIRLY BRIGHT, BRASH, AND EXTREMELY AMBITIOUS. HE IS SAID TO BE UNHAPPY WITH MOROCCAN TREATMENT OF SAHARANS AND THE LACK OF SAHARANS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE APPARATUS OF THE NEWLY-ABSORBED TERRITORY. HE HAS TRAVELED ABROAD AS A MEMBER OF GOM DELEGATIONS TO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES IN RECENT MONTHS, MAINLY AS A SHOWPIECE. HE REPORTEDLY UNSUCCESSFULLY ATTEMPTED TO CONTACT SDAR FONMIN HAKIM

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

DERWICH AT THE COLOMBO NAC LAST SUMMER, PRESUMABLY TO DEBATE THE LATTER. THE MOVE REPORTEDLY MADE SOME GOM OFFICIALS NERVOUS AND THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME CONCERN SINCE OVER HIS LOYALTIES.

4.COMMENT: THE APPOINTMENT IS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE PALACE'S TIME-TESTED TACTIC OF GO-OPTING POTENTIAL OPPOSITION ELEMENTS. IT IS ALSO A LONG-OVERDUE ATTEMPT TO INTEGRATE SCARECE SAHARAN TALENT INTO HIGHER LEVELS OF THE GOM APPARATUS.
ANDERSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
**Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED
**Concepts:** CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
**Control Number:** n/a
**Copy:** SINGLE
**Sent Date:** 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
**Decaption Note:**
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED
**Disposition Approved on Date:**
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009
**Disposition Event:**
**Disposition History:** n/a
**Disposition Reason:**
**Disposition Remarks:**
**Document Number:** 1977RABAT02270
**Document Source:** CORE
**Document Unique ID:** 00
**Drafter:** n/a
**Enclosure:** n/a
**Executive Order:** GS
**Errors:** N/A
**Expiration:**
**Film Number:** D770145-0889
**Format:** TEL
**From:** RABAT
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Image Path:**
**ISecure:** 1
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770418/aaaaapit.tel
**Line Count:** 73
**Litigation Code IDs:**
**Litigation Codes:**
**Litigation History:**
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
**Message ID:** f9881c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Office:** ACTION INR
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Page Count:** 2
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a
**Reference:** n/a
**Retention:** 0
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED
**Review Content Flags:**
**Review Date:** 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
**Review Event:**
**Review Exemptions:** n/a
**Review Media Identifier:**
**Review Release Date:** n/a
**Review Release Event:** n/a
**Review Transfer Date:**
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a
**SAS ID:** 2690967
**Secure:** OPEN
**Status:** NATIVE
**Subject:** KING HASSAN APPOINTS FIRST SAHRAOUI TO MINISTERIAL POST
**TAGS:** PINR, MO, (RACHID, KHALID HANNA OULD)
**To:** STATE
**Type:** TE
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f9881c9f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
**Review Markings:**
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009